

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/783,438
Amendment dated August 15, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of May 19, 2005

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. With this Amendment after Final, claims 1-3 and 6-14 are pending in the Application. Claims 15-20 are canceled by the present Amendment after Final. In the Final Office Action mailed May 19, 2005, Claims 1-3 and 6-14 are allowable and claims 15-20 are rejected. Claims 4 and 5 were cancelled by Applicant's Amendment and Reply dated January 24, 2005.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging the allowability of claims 1-14 in finding that "[t]he best prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to specifically teach or fairly suggest the method for tracking blood transfusions and method for collecting and storing in a computer database information about blood transfusions, disclosed in the current invention." By this Amendment after Final, claims 15-20 are cancelled to facilitate rapid issuance of pending and allowable claims 1-3 and 6-14. Cancellation of claims 15-20 is, however, made without prejudice to their prosecution in one or more related continuation or continuation-in-part patent application(s).

Also by this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to correct typographical informalities pointed out by the Examiner. Each of these claim amendments is fully supported by the specification as originally filed and none of these claim amendments introduces new matter.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 stands objected to by the Examiner due to typographical informalities. Claim 1 has been amended to correct each of the informalities noted by the Examiner thereby obviating each of the Examiner's objections.

Patentability of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Engleson *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0009244 in view of Grunes *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0257231.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Engleson *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0009244 in combination with Grunes *et al.*,

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U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0257231 in view of Fox *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0086071.

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Engleson *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0009244 in combination with Grunes *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0257231 and Fox *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0086071 in view of Meek *et al.*, 2004/0108795.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Engleson *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0009244 in combination with Grunes *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0257231; Fox *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0086071; and Meek *et al.*, 2004/0108795 in view of Zerhusen *et al.*, 2003/0052787.

By this Amendment, claims 15-20 are cancelled to facilitate rapid issuance of pending and allowable claims 1-3 and 6-14. Cancellation of claims 15-20 obviates each of the Examiner's present bases for rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that all of the Examiner's concerns have been addressed. Early reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-3 and 6-14 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 15, 2005

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